



Today you gave a specimen that will be tested for COVID-19. If you asked to receive your results by email, you will receive an email when your test results are ready, which is usually within 3 business days. The email will prompt you to log in and get your results online where you may also print your results letter. If you asked to receive your results by mail, you will get a letter within 7 days of being tested.

What can you do while you wait for your results?

Whether you have COVID-19 or not, you should always:

- **Keep a 6-foot or 2-meter distance** from others when you are out.
- **Wear a cloth face mask** if you cannot avoid close contact with other people.
- **Wash your hands often** for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes** with your sleeve or a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.**
- **Routinely clean and disinfect** frequently touched surfaces and objects.

What do your test results mean?

If your results are negative:

- Continue taking the prevention steps above to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Call your health care provider right away if you start to have symptoms of COVID-19. You might need to be tested again. Symptoms include:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell
- **Remember: Results from today's test will tell you if you are infected or sick today.** It is possible that you could test positive in the future. Based on an analysis by the Health Department's Serology Working Group, serologic (also known as antibody) testing is not yet accurate enough to give individuals reliable information about their health.

If your results are positive:

- Your health care provider will talk to you about your care and treatment of any symptoms.
- Stay home until you speak with your health care provider.
- The Health Department will follow up with you and let you know when you can return to your regular activities. They will also talk to you about your close contacts.

Get more information at [healthvermont.gov/COVID-19](https://www.healthvermont.gov/COVID-19).